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CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

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Effective March 16, 2020: Clarion University is suspending all face-to-face classroom instruction for the remainder of the spring 2020 semester and will be offering all instruction remotely.

Updated March 31, 2020 | [View previous communications](#)

As of March 16, all of Clarion University's students became distance learners, using a variety of platforms such as D2L, Zoom, videos and email. Our campus community rose to the occasion to deliver on our promise to provide transformative learning opportunities to our students in our nationally recognized programs. It is inspiring to witness the many ways you have pulled together in these trying times.

Switching very quickly to remote-only instruction is one of the ways Clarion University is complying with the governor's recent requests for everyone to stay at home and practice social distancing.

The State System's chancellor has directed all PASSHE universities to continue to follow the governor's strategies to maintain social distancing, by enforcing the following:

- Offering remote-only instruction for all scheduled 2020 summer sessions.
- University presidents will cancel, postpone or move to a remote delivery modality all face-to-face events (both academic and non-academic) that have been or would have been scheduled during the summer 2020 months. (Presidents will closely monitor the situation and, upon consultation with the chancellor, may grant exceptions for face-to-face on-campus programs where such programs can be managed in a way that ensures the health and safety of participants and the broader community.)

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(Presidents will closely monitor the situation and, upon consultation with the chancellor, may grant exceptions for face-to-face on-campus programs where such programs can be managed in a way that ensures the health and safety of participants and the broader community.)

- No in-person experiential learning may occur, including, but not limited to, clinical rotations, student teaching, internships, field experiences, and other types of academically-related placements. Classroom faculty and experiential learning supervisors shall continue to provide remote learning opportunities for students to achieve appropriate learning outcomes. Presidents may grant exceptions to students in extraordinary circumstances, for example where they are satisfied that safety considerations are met by their experiential learning opportunities, e.g. with respect of virtual internships, internships sited in locations determined to be "safe" from the risk of infection, etc.

Steps are already in place to follow these requests, and our leadership team meets daily to assess our unique needs and situation. We continue to work with the necessary individuals and entities to reduce the impacts to degree progression for students who have experiential learning requirements.

Finally, I cannot thank the faculty and staff enough for the way everyone has worked together to transition students to remote learning and to ensure students are receiving the same quality educational experience no matter where they are. There remains a small number of students who are approved to live on campus, and I want to also thank the Student Affairs team and Chartwells for their work in keeping these students safe and engaged. Your commitment is second to none.

To the students, your resilience is no surprise to me. Keep going. If you need help, ask. Our faculty and staff are aware of the challenges you currently face, and we want nothing but your success.

We are all in this together. Stay calm, stay connected and stay healthy. Wings most definitely up.
Dr. Dale

INFORMATION FOR

STUDENTS & PARENTS

Information and resources for students & parents.

- [Frequently asked questions](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Housing information](#)
- [Student health center](#)
- [Zoom information](#)
- [Prospective Student Questions](#)
- [Things to do \(coloring pages, virtual walks, etc.\)](#)

FACULTY & STAFF

Information and resources for faculty & staff.

- [FAQs / Information](#)
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- [Human Resources](#)
- [Telecommuting announcement 3/18/2020](#)
- [Things to do \(coloring pages, virtual walks, etc.\)](#)

CLARION UNIVERSITY HAS NO KNOWN CASES OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AT THIS TIME

It is of the highest importance to maintain the health and safety of our students. We continue to monitor the outbreak of coronavirus, and will continue to update you as new information is available through this website. Please keep in mind that the situation is rapidly evolving. Additional information about COVID-19 is available and consistently updated from the following sources:

- [PA Department of Health](#)
- [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

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[March 20, 2020 - Message to campus community](#)

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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HAVE THERE BEEN ANY DIAGNOSED CASES OF CORONAVIRUS AT CLARION UNIVERSITY?

WHAT IS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-NCOV)?

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STUDENTS & PARENTS FAQ

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If your questions are not answered here, you can submit your questions to the [Coronavirus question form](#).

Q: Who should get tested for COVID-19?

A: See the [guidelines set forth by the CDC](#) and [PA Department of Health](#) to see if you should be tested. Call your primary care provider or the Department of Health in your state if you are experiencing symptoms.

The Center for Wellness is happy to assist you by phone for any reason. Call for an appointment at 814 393 2121.

Q: Students and employees are asked to practice strict social distancing. What does that mean?

- No large face-to-face meetings should take place.
- Through the duration of spring 2020, semester, all instruction will continue to be delivered remotely ONLY.
- The university remains open; however, most campus services will be suspended, significantly reduced or offered remotely.

Q: Is academic support available to help me transition to online or remote classes?

A: Yes. Contact Ron Radaker at rradaker@clarion.edu or link to resources at [Center for Access, Success and Achievement](#).

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Q: Is IT support available to help with connectivity or computer issues?

A: Contact the Computer Services Help Desk at helpdesk@clarion.edu or 814 393 2640.

Q: Will Reinhard Villages, Venango Apartments and my residence hall still be open?

A: Based on the concept of social distancing and recommendations of PASSHE and the governor of Pennsylvania, Reinhard Villages, Suites on Main North and South, Valley View and Campus View Suites will close, and those students will be sent home. **Students need to leave by 5 p.m. Sunday, March 22.** Exceptions can be made for emergency circumstances (e.g. financial hardship, homelessness, international students, or other reasons) by applying for an exception at www.clarion.edu/housing. These requests must be submitted for review by 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 18.

For students living in the apartments on the Venango campus please contact Bob Murray at 814 677 2326 or bob@rlmurray.com.

Q: Can I expect a refund on housing, dining and fees?

A: Yes. At this point in time, we are working to ensure that students are moved out of their residence halls and on-campus apartments safely. Information on refunds for housing, meal plans, and fees is being reviewed and will be shared as it is available.

Q: What should I take with me when I leave?

A: Plan to take all of your items. If you cannot take them all now, email reslife@clarion.edu to make an appointment to retrieve them at a later date.

Q: Can I still get my mail?

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A: The Gemmell Mailroom is currently closed. All students who lived in Campus View, Valley View or Suites on Main North/South should forward their mail to a permanent mailing address. Mail Service for Reinhard Villages will be available this week but will stop at 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 22nd when all residential students have checked out of housing. Unclaimed mail and packages will be returned to sender as undeliverable.

Q: I have a student worker job on campus. Should I report to work?

A: No. Students should not report to work until further notice, but they will continue to be paid. Students should enter hours worked through today, March 16, into the student payroll system. After today, the human resources office will use the average weekly hours worked by each student to pay them for remaining pay periods. Contact your direct supervisor if you have questions.

Q: What is happening with athletic competitions and practices?

A: The NCAA has canceled Division I and Division II winter and spring NCAA championships, including wrestling. The PSAC and its member institutions suspended all athletic competition for the remainder of the spring semester. Additionally, practices and other related activities have been suspended for all sports until further notice. Athletes having specific questions should contact their coach.

Q: Will graduation be held as scheduled in May?

A: Clarion University, like most higher education institutions, has moved to remote education only for the remainder of the semester. I want to first assure you that students who are eligible to graduate this spring will still graduate. In light of the need to maintain good social distancing practices, we have decided to postpone all of this spring's commencement ceremonies and activities. New dates for in-person ceremonies will be scheduled and announced once circumstances allow and with enough notice for graduates and their families to return to campus for the celebrations.

Questions related to obtaining your transcripts please visit the Registrar's webpage at www.clarion.edu/transcript.

Q: I'm involved in off-campus experiential learning (clinical/student teaching/internships/externships/co-ops). Should I still report to my site?

A: No. Until further notice, do not report to your site. Your instructor will contact you regarding details.

Q: Will the libraries remain open?

A: [Carlson and Suhr libraries](#) will be remote access only. [Library faculty](#) are available for virtual or telephone consultation and other library services are available virtually while classes are online.

Q: Can I access any academic buildings?

A: Student access to academic buildings will be suspended until further notice.

Q: If I'm sick or need counseling, can I go to the Wellness Center?

A: All health services will be delivered remotely. If you are feeling ill or need counseling, call 814 393 2121.

Q: Will Student Financial Services be open?

A: [Student Financial Services](#) will be available via remote access or phone at 814 393 2315.

Q: Is Gemmell open?

A: No. Gemmell will be unavailable to students and the public. Services will be suspended until further notice.

Q: Can I still access the Gemmell Resource Room?

A: The Gemmell Resource Room will be accessible to students by appointment only. Please call 814 393 2021 between

Q: Can I still access the Gemmell Resource Room?

A: The Gemmell Resource Room will be accessible to students by appointment only. Please call 814 393 2031 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Q: Is Eagle Commons still open?

A: We are providing limited meals to those students that identified they will need them. Meals are carry-out only with limited food options. If you have any questions, please email reslife@clarion.edu.

Q: Will the Student Recreation Center be open?

A: Services at the Student Recreation Center are suspended until further notice.

Q: I'm a Venango campus student. Will Rhoades Hall be open?

A: All student services in Rhoades Hall are suspended until further notice.

Q: Is Starbucks going to be open?

A: Starbucks will suspend services as of Tuesday, March 17.

Q: How can my student organization still conduct its business?

A: Student organizations should suspend in-person meetings and may engage in virtual meetings. Contact the director of student engagement & development at mshaffer@clarion.edu for ideas on how to do this.

Q: Will the University Store be open?

A: The University Store on both Clarion and Venango campuses will suspend business until further notice. Additional

Q: Will the University Store be open?

A: The University Store on both Clarion and Venango campuses will suspend business until further notice. Additional updates will be provided. Visit www.clarion.edu/bookstore for more information.

Q: Will bus service still be available?

A: Clarion bus service will continue to be provided, but on a modified schedule, accessible at www.RideATA.com. No changes to the Venango bus service have been announced; the schedule is available at <https://www.co.venango.pa.us/579/Transportation>.

Q: What if I decide to drop all my classes entirely for the remainder of the semester?

A: If you choose to withdraw from Clarion and/or drop all of your classes, you may be required to return a portion of your federal financial aid disbursement to the U.S. Department of Education. This process is called Return to Title IV aid (R2T4) and is a federally mandated policy that Clarion must follow. Before you make any decision regarding this, please contact the Student Financial Services to understand the financial impact that decision would have. If the decision has been made to withdraw from Clarion, the [Semester/University Withdrawal Form](#) is to be completed and submitted to the Registrar's Office via email registrar@clarion.edu.

Q: Why do some rooms have signs indicating they were disinfected and the date?

A: The university custodial staff is doing heavy cleaning of areas that are unoccupied now, such as, but not limited to, classrooms. When the work is completed, a notice is posted on the door indicating it has been cleaned the room as been cleaned and the date the cleaning was completed. The door to the room will then be locked to ensure the space remains clean until normal operations resume.

Q: [What should I do if I was potentially exposed to someone with confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)

Q: What should I do if I was potentially exposed to someone with confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease (COVID-19)?

A: If you think you have been exposed to someone with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health to avoid spreading the disease to others if you get sick.

Q: What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

A: COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by a new virus called SARS-CoV-2. The most common symptoms of the disease are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Most people with COVID-19 will have mild disease but some people will get sicker and may need to be hospitalized.

Q: How do I know if I was exposed?

A: You generally need to be in close contact with a sick person to get infected. Close contact includes:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19,
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19,
- Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 10 minutes, OR
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.).

If you have not been in close contact with a sick person with COVID-19, you are at low risk for infection, but should monitor your health for 14 days and stay away from others if you get sick.

Q: What should I do if I was in close contact with someone with COVID-19 while they were ill but I am not sick?

A: You should monitor your health for fever, cough and shortness of breath during the 14 days after the last day you were in close contact with the sick person with COVID-19. You should not go to work or school, and should avoid

Q: What should I do if I was in close contact with someone with COVID-19 while they were ill but I am not sick?

A: You should monitor your health for fever, cough and shortness of breath during the 14 days after the last day you were in close contact with the sick person with COVID-19. You should not go to work or school, and should avoid public places for 14 days.

Q: What should I do if I am a close contact to someone with COVID-19 and get sick?

A: If you get sick with fever, cough or shortness of breath (even if your symptoms are very mild), you likely have COVID-19. You should isolate yourself at home and away from other people. If you have any of the following conditions that may increase your risk for a serious infection—age 60 years or older, are pregnant, or have medical conditions—contact your physician’s office and tell them that you were exposed to someone with COVID-19. They may want to monitor your health more closely or test you for COVID-19.

If you do not have a high-risk condition but want medical advice, call your healthcare provider and tell them you were exposed to someone with COVID-19. Your healthcare provider can help you decide if you need to be evaluated in person. There are currently no medications to treat COVID-19. If you have a medical emergency and need to call 911, notify the dispatch personnel that you may have been exposed to COVID-19. If possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive or immediately after they arrive.

Q: [If I am under home isolation or quarantine, when is it safe for me to discontinue this procedure?](#)

Individuals with COVID-19 under home isolation:

Persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue home isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath);

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath);

AND,

- At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

For example, if day 0 is the onset of illness, persons with COVID-19 that are afebrile and have no respiratory symptoms as of day 3 must remain isolated until day 7. Someone with COVID-19 who still has a fever or respiratory symptoms until day 10 cannot be released until day 13.

Individuals with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had ANY symptoms may discontinue home isolation when at least 7 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test and have had no subsequent illness.

Household contacts of persons with COVID-19:

Because exposure is considered to be ongoing within the house, household contacts of persons with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days after the case has been released from isolation. This means that household contacts will need to remain at home longer than the initial case.

For non-household contacts of persons with COVID-19:

People who had close contact* with a person with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days from the date of last contact with the person with COVID-19.

If someone had close contact* with a COVID-19 case prior to the case becoming symptomatic, there was no exposure and no quarantine is necessary.

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People who had close contact* with a person with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days from the date of last contact with the person with COVID-19.

If someone had close contact* with a COVID-19 case prior to the case becoming symptomatic, there was no exposure and no quarantine is necessary.

* Close contact is defined as:

- Being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time; close contact can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a healthcare waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case

- OR -

- Having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

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FACULTY & STAFF INFORMATION

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If your questions is not answered here, you can submit your questions to the [Coronavirus question form](#).

March 21, 2020

Good morning,

I want to say thank you to everyone for mobilizing so quickly this past week. Working remotely will present some challenges, but I know that we will persevere and keep our Clarion moving.

While we have no known or suspected cases of coronavirus in our area, we need to remain vigilant. We are following [Pennsylvania Department of Health protocol](#), as well as guidance from the Pennsylvania Governor's Office and our own State System. Our coronavirus webpage is updated regularly and includes health department guidance on what to do if you or a family member is [not feeling well](#). If you feel that you or a loved one has had possible exposure to coronavirus (COVID-19), you can find some helpful information [here](#).

Even though most students and employees are connected remotely, you should still follow good social distancing strategies. We will continue to keep you updated on a regular basis, and immediately if our situation changes. Keep posting questions on the website, check for updates, stay connected and stay healthy!

Dr. Dale

Q: Do I need to put in leave request if I am on paid administrative leave?

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WELLNESS ASSISTANCE

Q: Do I need to put in leave request if I am on paid administrative leave?

A: No. The university may grant Administrative Leave to employees who cannot work remotely. If you are on paid administrative leave you do not need to enter time into the PASSHE Portal

Q: When can I begin to work remotely?

A: As soon as you complete telecommuting form and return it directly to Ann Hargenrader in Human Resources you may begin. If you have technology needs, the [Technology Data Request Form on the web](#) must be completed. This will allow computing services to engage with you on securing any necessary support. If for health reasons, family reasons, or other personal concerns you would prefer to expedite your technology set up please contact Tim Fogarty at tfogarty@clarion.edu. All employees approved to work remotely should be doing so no later than Monday March 23, 2020.

Q: How much lead time will I be given when normal operations resume?

A: We will provide continual updates on our web page. Once we know that normal operations are resuming we will update the webpage and send emails to notify employees of a return to work date.

Q: I forgot something in my office, can I come back and get it?

A: We are responding to an international health crisis and prefer that you don't. If you need to come back to campus (and are not required to work on campus fully or partially) review with your supervisor before you come back to campus.

Q: Why do some rooms have signs indicating they were disinfected and the date?

A: The university custodial staff is doing heavy cleaning of areas that are unoccupied now, such as, but not limited to,

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Student Payroll

Student workers should enter hours worked through March 16, into the student payroll system. After March 16, the human resources office will use the average weekly hours worked by each student to pay them for remaining pay periods. Departments/timekeepers should not attempt to determine an average and enter that into the system.

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HAVE THERE BEEN ANY DIAGNOSED CASES OF CORONAVIRUS AT CLARION UNIVERSITY?

No, there are currently no known cases of coronavirus at Clarion University.

WHAT IS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-NCOV)?

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WHAT IS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-NCOV)?

2019-nCoV is a newly identified coronavirus that is causing an outbreak of pneumonia illness. It was first identified in December 2019 in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

Since then, the virus has been identified in multiple other countries, including cases in the U.S.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), [human coronaviruses](#) are common throughout the world and usually cause mild to moderate illness in people. This new virus is a public health concern because:

- It is newly identified, so much is still unknown about it.
- Two other human coronaviruses, MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV, have caused severe illness.

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TRAVEL GUIDELINES

- [CDC Travel Guidelines](#)
- [WHO Travel Guidelines](#)

If you have any of these symptoms and have traveled to an area of sustained or widespread transmission, call the Center for Wellness immediately at (814- 393-2121) and they will advise you regarding next steps. Do not go to the Center for Wellness or any other health care provider, without calling first if you have concerns that you may be affected.

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SYMPTOMS AND TRANSMISSION:

Symptoms may be flu-like, ranging from mild to serious, and include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing.

Person-to-person spread is occurring, although it's unclear exactly how it is transmitted and how easily the virus spreads between people.

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TREATMENT:

People infected with 2019-nCoV should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. Currently, there is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for 2019-nCoV infection (source: [CDC](#)).

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PREVENTION:

There is no vaccine to prevent this virus, and the CDC advises that the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

Currently, 2019-nCoV has not been found to be spreading in the U.S., so there are no additional precautions recommended for the general public to take.

Here are everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS:

WHAT IS THE CAMPUS HEALTH SERVICE DOING ABOUT 2019-NCOV?

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS:

If you have symptoms of fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing and you have had close contact with someone who has suspected or confirmed COVID-19 within the last 14 days:

You should:

- Seek medical care right away. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- Clarion University students should **call** the Center for Wellness, Health Services at (814) 393-2121 Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:45 pm.
- Those who are in the Clarion area but are not Clarion University students should call their healthcare provider or the PA Department of Health at (814) 226-2170.
- Avoid contact with others.
- Do not travel while sick. Please do not get on public transportation or just arrive at the Center for Wellness. Call instead {{(814) 393-2121}}.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

WHAT IS THE CAMPUS HEALTH SERVICE DOING ABOUT 2019-NCOV?

WHAT IS THE CAMPUS HEALTH SERVICE DOING ABOUT 2019-NCOV?

The Center for Wellness is screening every student who calls or arrives in the lobby about any recent travel and any symptoms they may have. Following the screenings, the Center will follow the guidelines set forth by the PA Department of Health and CDC.

[APPLY TODAY >](#)

[SCHEDULE A VISIT >](#)

[GIVE TO CLARION >](#)

ACADEMICS

- Degrees and Programs
- Colleges and Schools
- Clarion Online
- Summer Session
- Honors Program
- Pre-Professional Health Programs
- Department Chairs
- Career Services
- Academic Calendar
- Center for Access, Success, and Achievement

ADMISSIONS

- Apply to Clarion
- For Counselors
- Freshmen
- Graduate
- Meet the Admissions Team
- Next Steps for Admitted Students
- Online
- Request Information
- Transfer
- Venango Campus Students

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

- Tuition & Fees
- Financial Aid
- Financial Literacy
- Scholarships
- Billing & Payments
- Residency Requirements
- Contact the Student Financial Services Office
- Student Consumer Information

STUDENT LIFE

- Becht Hall
- Campus Dining
- Clarion Students' Association
- Clubs, Organizations and Activities
- Cultural Night
- Health, Fitness and Wellness
- Living at Clarion
- Public Safety
- Student Affairs
- University Store